

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-57 (Canceled)

58. (New) An information presentation apparatus, comprising:

voice outputting means for carrying out voice synthesis based on text information included in send data received from a sending apparatus for sending send data including text information and a need for hiding of the text information, and outputting obtained synthetic voice; and

displaying means for displaying speaker images imitating speakers of said synthetic voice and a text string to be spoken by said synthetic voice in a different text display form, which enables to distinguish each of said speaker images, corresponding to each of said speaker images,

wherein said displaying means, if there is the need for hiding of the text string, displays the speaker image by placing it over the text string to hide the text string from users' view.

59. (New) The information presentation apparatus according to claim 58, further comprising first retaining means for retaining display correspondence information showing a correspondence between each of a plurality of speaker images and the display form of a text string,

wherein said displaying means displays a speaker image selected from said plurality of speaker images, and obtains a display form corresponding to said selected speaker image from said display correspondence information to display said text string in said display form.

60. (New) The information presentation apparatus according to claim 58, further comprising second retaining means for retaining genre correspondence information showing a correspondence between said plurality of speaker images and genres, and

selecting means for identifying a genre of text information included in said send data, and selecting a speaker image corresponding to the identified genre based on said genre correspondence information,

wherein said displaying means displays a speaker image selected by said selecting means.

61. (New) The information presentation apparatus according to claim 58, wherein said text display form corresponding to each of said speaker images in said displaying means is at least any one of the letter color, size and font.

62. (New) The information presentation apparatus according to claim 58, wherein said displaying means displays said text string with a predetermined positional relation with the position in which said speaker image is displayed.

63. (New) The information presentation apparatus according to claim 58, wherein text information included in said send data includes headline text and text of spoken contents, and said displaying means displays said headline text distinguishable from the text string.

64. (New) An information presentation apparatus, comprising:

voice outputting means for carrying out voice synthesis based on text information included in send data received from a sending apparatus for sending send data including text information, and outputting obtained synthetic voice; and

displaying means for displaying, to a display device, speaker images imitating speakers of said synthetic voice and a text string to be spoken by said synthetic voice in a different text display form, which enables to distinguish each of said speaker images, corresponding to each of said speaker images,

wherein said displaying means, if the speaker image and the text string are overlapped due to a restriction of a display area of the display device, downsizes the speaker image to display it so as not to overlap the text string.

65. (New) An information presentation method, comprising:

a voice outputting step of carrying out voice synthesis based on text information included in send data received from a sending method for sending send data including text information and a need for hiding of the text information, and outputting obtained synthetic voice; and

a displaying step of displaying speaker images imitating speakers of said synthetic voice and a text string to be spoken by said synthetic voice in a different text display form, which enables to distinguish each of said speaker images, corresponding to each of said speaker images,

wherein said displaying step, if there is the need for hiding of the text string, displays the speaker image by placing it over the text string to hide the text string from users' view.

66. (New) The information presentation method according to claim 65, further comprising a first retaining step of retaining display correspondence information showing a correspondence between each of a plurality of speaker images and the display form of a text string,

wherein said displaying step displays a speaker image selected from said plurality of speaker images, and obtains a display form corresponding to said selected speaker image from said display correspondence information to display said text string in said display form.

67. (New) The information presentation method according to claim 65, further comprising a second retaining step of retaining genre correspondence information showing a correspondence between said plurality of speaker images and genres, and

a selecting step of identifying a genre of text information included in said send data, and selecting a speaker image corresponding to the identified genre based on said genre correspondence information,

wherein said displaying step displays a speaker image selected in said selecting step.

68. (New) The information presentation method according to claim 65, wherein said text display form corresponding to each of said speaker images in said displaying step is at least any one of the letter color, size and font.

69. (New) The information presentation method according to claim 65, wherein said displaying step displays said text string with a predetermined positional relation with the position in which said speaker image is displayed.

70. (New) The information presentation method according to claim 65, wherein text information included in said send data includes headline text and text of spoken contents, and said displaying step displays said headline text distinguishable from the text string.

71. (New) An information presentation method, comprising:
a voice outputting step of carrying out voice synthesis based on text information included in send data received from a sending method for sending send data including text information, and outputting obtained synthetic voice; and

a displaying step of displaying, to a display device, speaker images imitating speakers of said synthetic voice and a text string to be spoken by said synthetic voice in a different text display form, which enables to distinguish each of said speaker images, corresponding to each of said speaker images,

wherein said displaying step, if the speaker image and the text string are overlapped due to a restriction of a display area of the display device, downsizes the speaker image to display it so as not to overlap the text string.

72. (New) A program for control of an information presentation apparatus, comprising:
a program code of a voice outputting step of carrying out voice synthesis based on text information included in send data received from a sending method for sending send data including text information and a need for hiding of the text information, and outputting obtained synthetic voice; and

a program code of a displaying step of displaying speaker images imitating speakers of said synthetic voice and a text string to be spoken by said synthetic voice in a different text display form, which enables to distinguish each of said speaker images, corresponding to each of said speaker images,

wherein said displaying step, if there is the need for hiding of the text string, displays the speaker image by placing it over the text string to hide the text string from users' view.

73. (New) A program for control of an information presentation apparatus, comprising:

a program code of a voice outputting step of carrying out voice synthesis based on text information included in send data received from a sending method for sending send data including text information, and outputting obtained synthetic voice; and

a program code of displaying step of displaying, to a display device, speaker images imitating speakers of said synthetic voice and a text string to be spoken by said synthetic voice in a different text display form, which enables to distinguish each of said speaker images, corresponding to each of said speaker images, .

wherein said displaying step, if the speaker image and the text string are overlapped due to a restriction of a display area of the display device, downsizes the speaker image to display it so as not to overlap the text string.